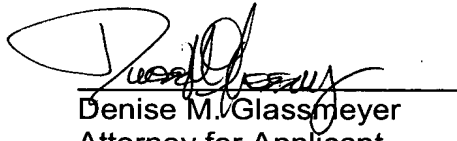


REMARKS

Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested. This Preliminary Amendment and the accompanying application seek to present the Applicants' invention as set forth in claims 1-19 for examination. Consideration and examination of the Applicants' invention is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Denise M. Glassmeyer
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 31,831
(248) 649-9900
(248) 649-9922 (Facsimile No.)
deniseg@troypatent.com

Date: January 14, 2004
3331 West Big Beaver Road, Suite 109
Troy, Michigan 48084-2813
DMG/ljo